



# NEWS RELEASE

3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302  
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## **FEDERAL FUNDS AWARDED TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES Congressman Rodney Alexander Presents USDA Rural Development Funds**

MARKSVILLE, October 15, 2004 – Congressman Rodney Alexander joined USDA Rural Development State Director Michael B. Taylor today to present several local communities substantial loan and grant funds:

### **Avoyelles Water Commission - \$5,876,000 Loan**

USDA Rural Development loan funds will be used to install new water lines to connect existing private water systems in Mansura, Marksville, and Moreauville. By connecting these systems together, each system will purchase water for their community through a master meter. This new consolidated water system will be more cost effective for each community and its residents.

### **Avoyelles Public Charter School, Inc. - \$500,000 Loan**

USDA Rural Development funds will be used to provide paved parking and an access road to the school—resulting in ample parking and easy access to the school for teachers, parents, and students.

### **City of Ville Platte - \$55,000 Grant**

USDA Rural Development funds will be used to purchase several fully-equipped police cars for the City of Ville Platte—ensuring safe streets and a secure environment for community residents.

### **Town of Mansura - \$15,600 Grant**

USDA Rural Development funds will be used to purchase equipment to enhance public safety operations in Mansura. Equipment will include digital cameras, bulletproof vests, dashboard video cameras, police scanner radios, and office equipment. This equipment will ensure the safety of Mansura's police officers as well as provide the police department with up-to-date equipment to improve operations.

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The Louisiana Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting Rural Development's web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity lender, provider, and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9140.